

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are present in the above-captioned application and have been subjected to a species election under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Specifically, the Official Action avers that the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention are present in the claims:

Species A, readable on Figure 1;

Species B, readable on Figure 5;

Species C, readable on Figure 6;

Species D, readable on Figure 7;

Species E, readable on Figure 8;

Species F readable on Figure 9; and

Species G, readable on Figure 10.

It is the Examiner's position that the species listed as A-G are patentably distinct from each other.

In response to the Examiner's requirement for species election, Applicants elect, with traverse, to prosecute the subject matter of Species A, Claims 1-10. However, Applicants reserve the right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter in this application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the embodiments of Figures 5-8 (Species B-E) are modifications of that illustrated in Figure 1 (Species A) and are thus not species separate from the species of Figure 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the claims readable upon Figures 5-8, i.e., Species B-E, claims 11-19, be prosecuted with the claims (1-10) of Figure 1 (Species A) elected herein.

In view of the foregoing, an examination on the merits of the elected claims, at an early date, is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Spinelli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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